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Provisional summary record of the 12th meeting
Held at Headquarters, New York, on Tuesday, 24 June 2003

President: Mr. Rosenthal ..... (Guatemala)

Contents

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Participation of intergovernmental organizations in the work of the Economic and Social Council

Consideration of the request for conversion of the International Civil Defence Organization, an intergovernmental organization with observer status with the Economic and Social Council, to a specialized agency of the United Nations system

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03-40729 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 10.35 a.m.

Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters (E/2003/100, E/2003/L.5 and L.6)

The President proposed some minor amendments to the annotated provisional agenda for the substantive session (E/2003/100), the proposed programme of work (E/2003/L.5) and the status of documentation (E/2003/L.6). Document A/58/72-E/2003/53 entitled "Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report by the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme on the measures taken for the operationalization of the World Solidarity Fund", would be considered under item 3 (b) of the agenda, rather than item 14 (b). Document A/57/497 and Add.1, entitled "Report of the Joint Inspection Unit on extension of water-related technical cooperation projects to end-beneficiaries: bridging the gap between the normative and the operational in the United Nations system" and the "Note by the Secretary-General containing the comments by the Secretary-General and the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon" should be considered under item 3 (a) of the agenda, rather than item 3 (c).

It was so decided.

Participation of intergovernmental organizations in the work of the Economic and Social Council (E/2003/6, 7 and 10; E/2003/L.3/Add.11)

The President said that the Council had before it requests for observer status from three intergovernmental organizations, namely, the Islamic Development Bank (E/2003/6), the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (E/2003/7) and the Common Fund for Commodities (E/2003/10). The Bureau had reviewed the applications and wished to recommend, in accordance with rule 79 of the Council's rules of procedure, that those intergovernmental organizations should be designated to participate in the deliberations of the Council on a continuing basis, with observer status.

It was so decided.

The President drew the attention of the Council to document E/2003/L.3/Add.11, regarding the application of Senegal for membership in the Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals of the Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods. The Secretary-General had received and approved that application, and he would take it that the Council wished to endorse the Secretary-General's decision to approve the application of Senegal.

It was so decided.

Consideration of the request for conversion of the International Civil Defence Organization, an intergovernmental organization with observer status with the Economic and Social Council, to a specialized agency of the United Nations system

The President recalled that, at its thirty-sixth plenary meeting, by decision 2002/233, the Council had decided to defer its consideration of that request to a later date. He would take it that the Council wished further to defer consideration of the request for conversion of the International Civil Defence Organization to a specialized agency of the United Nations system.

It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 10.50 a.m.